



CHESTER J. CULVER
GOVERNOR

PATTY JUDGE
LT. GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF LATINO AFFAIRS
MELISSA ESQUIVEL, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

LATINO AFFAIRS COMMISSION MEETING
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2010 – 2:00-5:00 p.m.
LUCAS STATE OFFICE BUILDING – 6TH FLOOR, ICN ROOM
DES MOINES IA

DRAFT MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m. by Chair Sandra Sanchez-Naert.

Commission Present: Sandra Sanchez-Naert, Chair, Sal Alaniz, Vice Chair, Ramon Cantu, Marcelina Cockburn (by ICN remote), Himar Hernandez (by ICN remote), Joan Jaimes and Paula Martinez

Staff: Melissa Esquivel, Office of Latino Affairs, Kathryn Baumann-Reese, Administrator, Community Advocacy and Services (CAS), Cyndi Chen, Resource Manager, DHR and Linda Scott, CAS

Visitor: Omar Padilla, Senator Tom Harkin's Office

Motion #11-1: Moved to approve the agenda. **(Hernandez/Jaimes)** All in favor, motion carried.

Motion #11-2: Moved to approve the minutes from May 28, 2010 with one correction on page 4. **(Hernandez/Jaimes)** All in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment:

Omar Padilla, representing Senator Tom Harkin's Office, appeared before the Commission voicing his concerns that information about Health Care Reform was not getting out to the community and asked for suggestions on how to better circulate the information. Suggestions included printing brochures in Spanish, putting the information out through radio and TV PSAs, provide information to newspapers and placed in newsletters, hold forums throughout the state to answer questions in the communities, and attend the upcoming Latino Conference with a table of information accessible to attendees. Mr. Padilla encouraged the use of www.healthcare.org to access the Spanish version of the information.

Commission Overview:

- Esquivel provided an overview of the Commission, the Strategic Plan and its goals and the Mission of the Commission for the benefit of the two (2) new Commissioners. She also discussed reimbursement of expenses and the forms necessary to receive reimbursement while traveling on Commission business and updated the Commission on reorganization.
- Baumann-Reese talked about the annual budget and how funding is determined. She reviewed the new Department of Human Rights (DHR) Board indicating that Jaimes will represent the Latino Affairs Commission on this new Board.

Commission Partnerships:

- Commission is currently working on a Youth Program (IYC), a collaborative effort with each of DHR's Offices under CAS. They also have a partnership with the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute and the United States Commission on Latino Affairs (USCLA).



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- The Office has worked with the Census and signed on with the Iowa Immigration Education Coalition, a non-partisan organization who helps inform and educate the community on immigration issues.

Commission Election of Chair and Vice Chair:

- Esquivel briefly explained the responsibilities of the Commission Chair and Vice Chair. After discussion, existing Chair and Vice Chair were asked if they would be willing to continue serving the Commission in their present capacity. Both were willing to continue to serve.

Motion #11-3: Move to retain Sandra Sanchez-Naert as Chair and Sal Alaniz as Vice Chair.
(Martinez/Jaimes) All in favor, motion carried.

Office Updates:

- Esquivel updated the Commission on the 5th Annual Iowa Youth Congress, to be held November 11-13, in Des Moines. Asked for volunteers to attend and take part in the events of November 12 and 13, explaining the regional meetings that precede the Congress and sessions and events that take place during the Congress.
- Esquivel gave an update on website changes. She 's asked the Commissioners for bios and photos to be placed on the site and feels it would be useful to the community to know who their Commissioner was in their area and be able to recognize them when they have occasion to meet. Website will also contain the Agenda and Minutes of the Commission Meetings. Chair asked the Commissioners for input as changes are made to make the site more user-friendly.
- Esquivel advised that the Division of CAS is looking for three (3) AmeriCorps members to work in the Office of Latino Affairs, Native Americans and Asian Pacific Islander Affairs. She hopes to have someone in Latino Affairs by the end of October.
- Esquivel briefly described the Community Action Agencies (CAA) material distributed to the Commissioners and the grant CAS received from the Division to promote and inform the community of available programs in the 21 locations throughout the state. Programs help with weatherization issues, HeadStart, FaDDS and LIHEAP, a program that will help households with their winter heating bills. Brochures were printed in Spanish as well as a number of different languages for the Asian Pacific Islander community and a supply of Spanish version brochures are included in their packets as well as OSHA wallet-sized cards and a card individuals use to identify themselves as being only a Spanish speaking individual.

Commission Agenda:

Commission Meeting Dates:

- Commission discussed the frequency of Commission meetings. Half would like to meet meeting every two months; half would like to meet quarterly. Because of budget constraints, Baumann-Reese pointed out that there is enough funding to hold four (4) face-to-face meetings per year, per Commission. Commissioners can meet more frequently but it would have to be by conference call or through the ICN; however, Baumann-Reese also suggested that the Commission try to meet the day before, the day after, or even the same day, if feasible, the new



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DHR Board meets to cut down on expenses. If something pressing should arise, a special meeting could be called to address the issue(s).

Motion #11-4: Move that the Commission meet quarterly, with the stipulation that additional meetings can be called should the need arise. **(Jaimes/Martinez)** All in favor, motion carried.

- Next meeting will be held January 2011. Esquivel will send each Commissioner a request for available dates.

Committees:

Chair asked the Commissioners to list 1-3 issues they would like to work on and those issues could then be set out into Working Committees. After prioritizing and selecting a Chair to lead each Committee, the following Committees were formed with Chair of each – those who would like to assist are also listed:

- Health – Joan Jaimes
- Jobs/Economic Development – Alaniz/Hernandez
- Leadership/Civic Engagement – Hernandez/Alaniz
- Education/Gangs/Dropout – Cantu/Jaimes
- Legislation – Sanchez/Esquivel/Jaimes
- Disproportionate Confinement/Justice – Martinez
- Immigration – Cockburn/Sanchez
- Issue Briefs – N/A

Motion #11-5: Move to approve the Working Committees with Chairs of each. **(Jaimes/Alaniz)** All in favor, motion carried.

There being no further business before the Commission, meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Sandra Sanchez-Naert, Chair

Linda Scott, Recording Secretary